

June 12, 1978

Dear Professor Lederberg:

Thank you for your inquiry.
 Huxley would probably be worth
 your time, if you should care to
 explore the interconnections
 between cell theory, protoplasmic
 theory of life, and bacteriology of
 the period from 1850-75. I
 would recommend that you
 examine his 5 Vol. Sci. Memoirs
 (Macmillan 1898-1903) edited by M. Foster and
 E. Ray Lankester. Papers such as:
 "The Cell-Theory (Review)" (1853);
 "On Some Organisms living at Great
 depths in the North Atlantic
 Ocean" [Quart Journal Micro. Soc. viii
 (1868): 203-12]; "A contribution
 to the Pathology of the Epidemic
 known as the 'Salmon ulcers'"
 (1883) are all part of the literature
 of general interest to microbiology

Paradise

02139
of the period. Of special curiosity
is the second ~~article~~ ^{article} I listed
above, because of Huxley's curious
though understandable thought
that he had discovered the protoplasmic
"stuff of life" in ocean shine.
This he dubbed "Bathibius
Haeckelii," after Haeckel. This
would ^{constitute} the ultimate polymorphism.

You may find material of
greater interest among his memoirs,
but his sorties into bacteriology,
I am afraid, did not advance the
science greatly. He is always
fascinating, however, and his 1853 review
had ~~substantial~~ ^{lasting} influence in England.
Thank you for your inquiry.
I will be glad to answer any
further questions you may have.
I would be pleased to hear from
you should you decide to explore
further into Huxley's work.
My book will appear in November,
but it is primarily a study of Huxley as an
essayist.
Yours, James Paradio